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Station: SCI, 7th Army

Report No: S-980

Reference: Report No: S-975

Report Date: 28 May 1945

Source: Interrogation of Subject
by 307th CIC Det, 19 May 45

Info Date: May 1945

Sub-Source:

Date Info Rec'd: 22 May 1945

Evaluation:

Subject: RADL, Karl, German, SS Sturmbannfuhrer, Personal
Adjutant to SS Obersturmbannfuhrer SKORZENY, Otto,
Head of RSHA Amt VI S.

1. SUMMARY: RADL, Karl, German National (Austrian birth) arrested by 15th Inf Regt at Salzburg on 16 May 1945. Subject on order of his commander, SKORZENY, sent a representative to the local commander of Annaberg (between SALZBURG and ABTENAU-RADSTADT) as soon as first American troops entered that town. Weapons were given up and the representative reported to the commander at Annaberg every day thereafter to find out the disposition of approximately 400 SS troops who were in the mountains in that vicinity. On 16 May Subject, with SKORZENY and an interpreter, went to Salzburg with a Jeep and driver provided by the commander in Annaberg. All three of them were taken into custody there by the 15th Infantry Regiment and brought to the 307th CIC Detachment on the 18th of May by an MP unit of 7th Army in whose hands they had been delivered on the 17 May. Subject was that time adjutant to SKORZENY who was commanding a group of 400 to 500 SS men (Schutzkorps Alpenland formerly SSJagdverband).

2. LIFE HISTORY: Subject was born on 12 November 1911 in Gloggnitz-Nieder Donau, Austria. In 1921 he moved to Neudoerfl-Burgenland, Austria and commuted to Realschule in Wiener Neustadt where he moved in 1929. He finished Realschule in 1930 and was unemployed for the next year. From 1931 to 36 he attended Technische Hochschule in Vienna to study insurance business. In 1937 he went to Goettingen, Germany, as a political refugee (he was unable to get work in Austria because of his National Socialist affiliations (see paragraph below). During 1938 while he was teaching in Goettingen he was summoned to Berlin by the Gestapo (for reasons still unknown to him) and was forced to spend a week in a concentration camp (Sachsenhausen). Later in 1938 Subject joined the Kripo and went to the Grenzpolizeischule at Pretzsch a/d Elbe (Gestapo) for 2 months and was thereafter stationed on the border between Austria and Hungary at Pamhagen until September 1939. In Sep 39 he sought to get out of the Gestapo by volunteering for the Wehrmacht at Horn-Nieder Donau, Austria, but was hindered by the Gestapo and put back in the Grenzpolizei until 1940. In July 1940 he succeeded in joining the SS Artillery (Ersatz and Ausbildungs-Abteilung) and went to Berlin. He got a furlough in late 40 to study Law in the University at Berlin till summer 41. In June 41 he went to Russia as SS Untersturmfuehrer (with the staff of the 9th Army) and again in 42 got another 7 months furlough to continue his law studies in Berlin. In Nov 42 he went to Munich to the Regierungsprasident of Oberbayern as Referender. In March 43 he requested return to the front as SS Obersturmfuehrer, and in April he went to Berlin where he met SKORZENY (a former acquaintance) who employed subject as his adjutant.

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)

- (2)(A) Privacy ☐
(2)(B) Methods/Sources ☐
(2)(G) Foreign Relations ☐

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POLITICAL HISTORY: Subject joined the NSDAP in Austria in 1931 as unpaid member but was active enough so that he was barred from good employment in Austria; consequently he went to Germany in 1937. He came to the fore in the NSDAP only after the annexation of Austria in 1938. He joined the SS in 34 and was commissioned (Untersturmfuehrer) in Apr 41; on 20 April 1945 he received his last promotion to Sturmbannfuehrer.

3. INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES:

a. Recruitment: Subject had known SKORZENY's wife well; he had met SKORZENY on a visit to Wiener Neustadt and had seen him casually and accidentally a few times since. In Apr 43 Subject met SKORZENY accidentally in Berlin in a restaurant. SKORZENY had been called to Berlin by Reichsfuehrer SS HIMMLER to found a new department under Amt VI of RSHA. SKORZENY requested that he be excused from this mission, but was ordered to do it in spite of his protest. At the same time it was agreed between subject and SKORZENY that subject would act as SKORZENY's personal adjutant regardless of whether SKORZENY had to carry out this new mission or would be allowed to return to his former position as Head Technical Advisor (Technischer Fuehrer) of the Div Artillery of SS Division "Reich."

b. Intelligence Training: Subject has had no intelligence training except for two months training at the Grenzpolizeischule at Pretzsch a/d Elbe in 1938. He worked together with SKORZENY on the organization of Amt IV/S RSHA.

c. Present Mission: Subject claims that at present he has no mission and that there were no orders for mission either by SKORZENY or by Reichsfuehrer HIMMLER, for post war resistance or activity; at least there were none to his knowledge or belief.

::Comment:: Information received on other subjects lead this agent to believe that this statement is not valid:

- References:
- (1) Report on 28 Apr 45 on WULF, Adolf, SD Munich, 307th CIC Det (SCI 7th Army No: S-960)
 - (2) SHAEF file card no BESEKOW, Arno, 307th CIC Det files (Attention to Organizations Henriette and Jeanne)
 - (3) Report on 2eme Bureau-5eme Section (OO/No/7/7/) on Amt VI S, Subj: Interrogation of KAUTZ, Hans Friedrich Rudolph on Amt VI/S RSHA, (Rec'd 7 Apr 45) (307th CIC Det, file "SS Aemter, RSHA).

d. Former missions: In April 43 SKORZENY received the order from Reichsfuehrer SS HIMMLER to found schools under Amt VI (Ausland) of RSHA for training of agents for espionage and sabotage in foreign countries, subject acted as SKORZENY's personal adjutant. The following subjects were to be taught:

- (1) Conspiracy (Secret relations with people)
- (2) Customs, laws and peculiarities of people and countries to be visited.
- (3) Use and care of foreign weapons.
- (4) Automobile driving, horseback riding, and swimming.
- (5) Use of secret inks.
- (6) Sending and receiving (Radio).

In May - June 43 Subject assisted in gathering necessary supplies and information without a great deal of success, eg. RSHA Amt IV (Gestapo) would give no cooperation in finding useful

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information about captured enemy agents.

Subject met BESEKOW, Arno (noted criminalist from Kripo Stelle Magdeburg) in May 43 in Amt VI and recommended to SKORZENY that he be employed. BESEKOW was sent to Holland to gather useful information from captured English and American parachutists. He gathered considerable material but process of Amt VI 8 was interrupted by capitulation of Italy in July 43.

On 26 July 43 SKORZENY in company with STUDENT (General der Fliegerkorps) was ordered personally by HITLER to liberate MUSSOLINI from Italy. Subject accompanied SKORZENY and BESEKOW and about 35 to 40 SS men to Pratica der Mare (Near Rome) by plane on same date. On 28 July Mussolini was on Maddalena (a small island North of Sardinia) and an attempt was made in conjunction with the German Navy to liberate the DUCE, but he had been previously taken away. For two weeks there were no reliable reports of DUCE's whereabouts. About the 5th or 6th of September he was located at Gram Sasso in a hotel (Campo Imperatore) on a mountain. Photo maps were made of the area and the expedition finally landed with 27 SS men and about 90 paratroopers on small meadows on the mountain. DUCE was freed without struggle and flown away in a small plane with SKORZENY. Subject and others returned by train without any trouble.

In October 43 Subject returned to Berlin to begin anew work for VHS. SKORZENY and SCHELLENBERG (Head of RSHA AMT VI) had personal differences and progress was poor. SKORZENY conceived the idea of establishing the SS Jager Battalion 502 of volunteer men of excellent qualities who would sacrifice everything for Germany to perform important, dangerous missions of sabotage and espionage. This he founded in Oct to Nov 43 assisted by Subject. It consisted originally of about 300 men plus another 100 who were sent to the Luftwaffe and Navy for special training in flying, gliding, parachuting, swimming (underwater), one man submarines, and the use of small fast outboard motor boats. Of the 50 men sent to the Luftwaffe (Kampfgeschwader) nothing ever came as far as Subject knows. For disposition of those sent to Kriegsmarine (Kommando der Kleinkampfverband), see appendix II. In October 44, SS Jagerbattalion 502 was joined to an element of the Brandenburg Division (Streifkorps) a unit of about 150 men, experts in Russian and Balkan languages, originally planned to be front line occupational administrators in conquered countries) and the name was changed to SS Jagdverband.

In September 44 Admiral HORTHY (Hungarian Governor) was supposed to have made advances to Russia and TITO for armistice. To prevent this "catastrophy" HITLER assigned to SKORZENY the mission of removing HORTHY and his henchmen from Hungary. Subject helped the planning of this mission but did not accompany SKORZENY in its performance.

At the threat of the Russian advance on Berlin, SKORZENY took his command (SS Jagdverband) to the Oder front where they remained until mid-April 45. In April SKORZENY withdrew his 400 to 500 SS men (without orders from higher headquarters) into Austria in order to escape the Russian advance and:

- (1) Preserve law and order and prevent plundering.
- (2) Prevent communistic organizations from functioning.
- (3) Uphold the southern front as much as possible.

Subject remained in Friedenthal near Oranienburg to care for the forwarding of supplies to the departed troops; he joined SKORZENY on about 20 April in LINZ, Austria and has been with him ever since.

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About the 28 April SKORZENY changed the name of his command from SS Jagdverbände to Schutzkorps Alpenland and at the same time a six point order was written by Subject of approximately the following content:

- (1) No further belligerent activities against the west front and strict obedience to occupation troops when they come.
- (2) All weapons were to be immediately collected.
- (3) Continue resistance against Russia if occasion rose and prevent the functioning of communist organizations.
- (4) To protect the public from marauders and robbers.
- (5) To help farmers in agriculture and reconstruction, and to place other German soldiers in the vicinity as helpers to the farmers.
- (6) To prevent the political and other refugees from preying on the local population for food, etc.

This order was issued two days before the arrival of American troops and contacts were made with commanding officer immediately by a representative sent by SKORZENY. Arrangements were also made to contact SS Oberstgruppenführer HAUSER and to arrange the surrender of his 13th (or 4th) SS Korps.

5. COMMENTS: RADL is still a devout Nazi; he has no sense of guilt or shame about Germany's action. He gave information politely by answering questions but nothing was volunteered. It is believed that he has considerable more information which could be brought out by further detailed interrogation. For a man in his position he possessed surprisingly little information about Abwehr II (Sabotage) which was attached to Amt VI S after July 44. His convictions are sincere and his ideas are for a greater Germany and Pan Germanism. He is devoted to his former leaders and in the opinion of this agent will remain so. He is dangerous to the peace and security of Europe.

6. Recommendation: It is recommended by this Agent, that RADL be further interrogated by High Headquarters and eventually be interned indefinitely.

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APPENDIX I

19 May 1945

Subject: Organization of RSHA AMT VI/S and personality targets.

RE : Interrogation of RADL, Karl, SS Sturmbannfuehrer, personal adjutant to SKORZENY, Otto, Head of RSHA's AMT VI/S.

1.

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* AMT VI *
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* (SCHELLENBERG) *
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* * * * *
* AMT VI/S *
* *
* (SKORZENY, Otto) *
* * * * *

* * * * *
* ADJUTANT *
* *
* RADL *
* * * * *

: AMT VI/S SCHOOLS :
: DIRECTORATE FOR THEIR ESTABLISHMENT :
: BESEKOW, Arno :
: MAYER (fnu) :

: HAGUE :
: Under Direction of SS :
: Standartenfuehrer KNOLLE :
: (fnu). Trained agents :
: for countries in West. :
: Dissolved Aug 44. :

: KROATIA: :
: Under Direction of SS Obersturm- :
: bannfuehrer APPEL (fnu). Trained :
: agents for countries in East. :
: School moved to Steiermark, Austria: :
: in late 44 and was broken up before: :
: the arrival of the Russians. :

2. a. BESEKOW, Arno, SS Hauptsturmfuehrer, was taken into Amt VI/S in May 1943. His Mission was to gather information for the establishment of schools for agents to go into foreign countries on sabotage and espionage missions. He traveled to Holland in 43 to obtain information from captured British and American parachutists for the Befehlshaber der SIPO in Holland. He did further research work in AMT IV, RSHA, to obtain information for education of agents to go to England and English occupied territory. He was present on mission, July-September 1943, to liberate Mussolini from Italy.

b. MAYER (fnu), SS Obersturmfuehrer (Possibly Untersturmfuehrer), employed in AMT VI/S to assist BESEKOW in his search for information.

c. KNOLLE (fnu), SS Standartenfuehrer, in charge of AMT VI/S School at HAGUE from late 43 until Aug 44. Departed from the Hague in August 1944 and went to the AMT VI/S school in Kroatia until Sep 44. Returned to RSHA's AMT I (Personnel) for further disposition. Present whereabouts or activities are unknown to the Subject.

d. APPEL (fnu), SS Obersturmbannfuehrer, in charge of the AMT VI/S School in Kroatia from late 43 until July 44 when he left to take over a field command on the Eastern front.

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e. ZIMMER, (fnu), SS Sturmbannfuehrer, replaced KNOLLE in charge of the AMT VI/S School Kroatia in Sep 44 and later moved the school to STEIER-MARK, Austria, where he broke it up early in 45 in the face of the Russian advance.

f. SCHEIBER (fnu), SS Untersturmfuehrer, in charge of AMT VI/S School for Underwater Swimmers in Vienna. He is supposed to have gone to Remagen to blow the Ludendorff Bridge in March 45.

g. NORMAN, Major of the Wehrmacht General Staff was placed in charge of Abwehr II (sabotage) when it was attached to AMT VI/S in July 44. RADL states that Abwehr II remained a separate unit from AMT VI/S and that there was only liaison between the two offices. NOTE: It is believed by this Agent that RADL has considerably more information on Abwehr II which would be obtained through further interrogation. He was the liaison man with NORMAN and read all reports submitted to AMT VI/S. Subject claims to have knowledge of the existence of stores of munitions and sabotage materials, although he states that they were all deposited by Abwehr II before its incorporation into AMT VI/S and he has no idea where they are located. Denied any knowledge of Organizations, "JEANNE" and "HENRIETTE" or of any of the schools in Badenweiler (under Obersturmfuehrer HAGENDORN) or in Milan. He states that he believes these schools are the products of Abwehr II and that they were not operated in conjunction of AMT VI/S.

APPENDIX II

Subject: Organization of KOMMANDO der KLEIN KAMPF VERBAENDE (KdK)

1. Admiral HEYE began this organization with volunteers from the German Navy who would be willing to face certain death for their country. This was begun after the practical dissolution of the German Navy in the summer of 43 in an effort to supplement this loss with large scale, discreet sabotage. SKORZENY conferred with HEYE in the fall of 1943 on the use and development of the following weapons: (a) Small one man submarines, (b), Underwater swimming suits and equipment, (c), Small fast outboard motorboats.

2. Late in 43, SKORZENY sent twenty to thirty of his SS men from SS Jaeger Battalion 502 to take this training. He himself had nothing to do with the training, and after the men were assigned to the schools, they did not return but were given missions by the Navy. RADL did find out, however, that the first six of these men were sunk at the time of the invasion of Normandy.

3. In 44, SKORZENY sent about 20 men to take the underwater swimming training. These 20 returned as teachers to the Jaeger Battalion and were used to train about fifteen men at the Junkerschule in Bad Toelz and some twenty others in a school in Vienna. The twenty together with the instructors from Vienna went to Remagen to try to destroy the bridge there after the Allies had crossed the Rhine. RADL does not know what happened to them. He heard indirectly that those from Bad Toelz had departed from Munich in Apr 45, but their destination was unknown to him. The remaining staff of the SS Junkerschule in Bad Toelz joined an SS Div and went to the front near Regensburg.

4. Subject claims to have no personal knowledge of the use of the small outboard motorboats, although he had read of their use.

5. According to RADL, Admiral HEYE accepted SS men for this training because he wanted to use SKORZENY for procuring the necessary material for the KdK training schools. SKORZENY was active in obtaining the necessary material, although once it was obtained no more SS men were accepted for the training and the KdK functioned completely independent of SKORZENY.